

In the Claims:

1-8 (Cancel).

9 (Currently amended). A method of manufacturing an abrasive material, comprising the steps of:

- (i) spraying a nonwoven synthetic fibre fleece with a binder;
- (ii) spreading the sprayed fleece with abrasive;
- (iii) curing the binder; and then,
- (iv) passing the fleece to a mechanical fibre-opening machine to wholly or substantially separate the fibres from one other.

10 (Cancel).

11 (Currently amended). An abrasive material obtainable by a method comprising the steps of:

- (i) spraying a nonwoven synthetic fibre fleece with a binder;
- (ii) spreading the sprayed fleece with abrasive;
- (iii) curing the binder; and then,
- (iv) passing the fleece to a mechanical fibre-opening machine to wholly or substantially separate the fibres from one another.

12 (Cancel).